Prof. J. Torrey

Ningpo May 18 '53

TORREY C[illegible]ONDENCE [illegible] ITY.

My dear Sir

As I have neglected availing myself of the privilege of addressing you, until this late day I should perhaps introduce myself as a stranger, but as I once engaged your friendship I cannot conceive a new introduction necessary. My object in writing now is to ask you to offer my services to any Agricultural Horticultural, or other Society which would take an interest in the introduction of plants from this side of the Pacific into the U. States. I had an application from the Patent Office to the same effect long since, but as the small sum which was proffered for defraying necessary expenses was not sent I merely forwarded seeds. A Society would do better perhaps, & I am quite certain that many valuable & ornamental plants might in this manner be introduced into the Middle & Southern States from these latitudes. My services will be cheerfully rendered, but the cost of boxes glazed & wired, & the expense of freight is more than I can afford to give to Science or patriotism, the case of course with every missionary.

I should be glad to hear from you dear

family has been the past ten years. Do any of them remember having had me to Lockport with Drs Grant & Parker — & the Chinaman?
I have had many trials since that time & much happiness, but have seen less advance of the Gospel in China than I then looked for, still I am satisfied that I am where the Master would have me, & am of course content.

Overland via A. S. M. Union

Prof. Torrey
New York

D. J. M.

One little girl has been spared to us out of many — she is not likely to be an only child — With best remembrances to all who remember me
Believe me My dear preceptor
Sincerely & faithfully Yrs
D. J. Macgowan